

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 93 17:44:22 PST
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #322
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Mon, 15 Mar 93 Volume 93 : Issue 322

Today's Topics:

 Cleaning Air Variable Caps. (2 msgs)
 CTIA REPLY COMMENTS TO FCC DOCKET 93-01 (scanner ban) (2 msgs)
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 License is Here!!! (2 msgs)
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 TS-50 Impressions
 Weather Satellite Digital Formats
 Weather Satellite Transmission Recording
 What about those FAQing number stations anyway?
 What is RST?

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 23:22:30 GMT
From: agate!spool.mu.edu!darwin.sura.net!sgiblab!news.kpc.com!kpc!nat@ames.arpa
Subject: Cleaning Air Variable Caps.
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Hello,

I picked up some air variable caps at a flea market this weekend. The guy
I bought it from suggested I throw them into the dish washer first. I don't have
access to an ultrasound bath. Any ideas on cleaning and lubricating the bearings
would be very welcome. If I am inundated with some really innovative ideas I
will summarize and repost it.

One of the caps I picked up is a differential cap (2 sections of the same

```

      section 1              section 2 of diff cap
      -----| |-----| |-----
              |
transmitter  inductor      antenna
              |
              |
              |
              -----
              ----
              -

```

to figure out the limits. I guess the key point is that if I have a reasonably well tuned antenna the above circuit will be able to provide the required transformation. So the question I pose is that is the above circuit reasonable or am I way off base?

Thanks in advance.
Nat.

Natarajan Gurumoorthy KD2ZS/AE Kubota Pacific Computer, Inc.
nat@kpc.com 2630 Walsh Avenue
Phone 408 987 3341 Santa Clara, California 95051.

Date: 15 Mar 93 23:44:54 GMT
From: ogicse!uwm.edu!rpi!rs6413.ecs.rpi.edu!maessm@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Cleaning Air Variable Caps.

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Mar15.232230.23383@kpc.com>, nat@kpc.com (Natarajan Gurumoorthy) writes:

```
|>          section 1          section 2 of diff cap
|>
|>      -----| |-----| |-----
|>
|>              |
|>              |
|>  transmitter  inductor      antenna
|>              |
|>              |
|>              |
|>              -----
|>              ---
|>              -
```

A couple of years ago, my father (KA2KM0) and I built a tuner of this design. We made our own differential capacitor by taking two Nevada 250 pF units (available from Kilo-Tec in Arizona) and cannibalizing them. We also used a Nevada roller inductor. I chose to use a roller inductor because, being a purist, I like to have my SWR at exactly 1:1. This arrangement works very well and is a cinch to tune (2 hands, 2 knobs). The only disadvantage I see is that this circuit acts as a high pass filter, and thus provides no harmonic attenuation. I wonder if a differential inductor and a capacitor to ground would work . . .

--

Mat Maessen N2NJZ | maessm@rpi.edu

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The opinions expressed in this message definitely do NOT reflect the views of RPI, Roland Schmitt, or BAPP

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Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 22:32:26 GMT
From: mentor.cc.purdue.edu!noose.ecn.purdue.edu!dynamo.ecn.purdue.edu!
wb9omc@purdue.edu
Subject: CTIA REPLY COMMENTS TO FCC DOCKET 93-01 (scanner ban)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

larryt@crchh80c.NoSubdomain.NoDomain (Larry Truesdale) writes:

>This thing is really starting to anger me. Does anyone know who to call or
>write to to complaing about this proposal?

Find out who your congresscritters are and see which of them voted *against* the thing in the first place. Then have them contact the office of Sen. Coates of Indiana - his mail to me indicated that he was AGAINST the scanner ban and prefers encryption...

Duane
wb9omc@harbor.ecn.purdue.edu

Date: 16 Mar 93 00:36:30 GMT
From: ogicse!emory!athena!aisun3.ai.uga.edu!mcovingt@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: CTIA REPLY COMMENTS TO FCC DOCKET 93-01 (scanner ban)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <C3xz1A.D8D@news.rich.bnr.ca> larryt@bnr.ca writes:
>This thing is really starting to anger me. Does anyone know who to call or
>write to to complaing about this proposal?

You can submit reply comments to the FCC, in the same format as the comments you've seen, bearing the same docket number.

(Unless the deadline is past. The FCC invited comments _quite_ a while ago!)

--
:- Michael A. Covington internet mcovingt@uga.cc.uga.edu : *****
:- Artificial Intelligence Programs phone 706 542-0358 : *****
:- The University of Georgia fax 706 542-0349 : * * *
:- Athens, Georgia 30602-7415 U.S.A. amateur radio N4TMI : ** *** **

Date: 15 Mar 1993 21:41:17 GMT
From: cronkite.cisco.com!pst@ames.arpa
Subject: Ham Radio Outlet/Sunnyvale does not have volunteers...they are paid
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Mar14.170405.23609@murdoch.acc.Virginia.EDU>
jeg7e@hopper.ACS.Virginia.EDU (Jon Gefaell) writes:

>they get the standard fringe benefits that a full-time HRO employee
>gets.

I'm certain they do NOT get the 'standard fringe benefits'
that 'full time' employees get. Health care? Etc? I surely doubt it...

You misread me... I said *fringe* benefits. That means buying radios cheap. What business gives full healthcare to workers who work < 20 hrs a week?

--

Tiefer, tiefer, irgendwo in der Tiefe gibt es ein Licht!

Date: 15 Mar 93 23:13:47 GMT
From: ogicse!emory!wupost!spool.mu.edu!news.nd.edu!hesmac25@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: License is Here!!!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

The wait is over--the license is here, and now you may address me as N9SQE!
I was actually expecting a longer wait, based on horror stories from
others, but in my case the license arrived just under two months from the
date of my examination (15 January 1993). I have passed General theory and
20 wpm code--now wish me luck in passing the Advanced and Extra theory!
Sorry if I sound a little exuberant, but I am really quite happy about
this.

Date: 15 Mar 93 23:56:07 GMT
From: mnemosyne.cs.du.edu!nyx!jmaynard@uunet.uu.net
Subject: License is Here!!!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <Charles.R.Hohenstein.1-150393180853@hesmac25.hesburgh.lab.nd.edu>
Charles.R.Hohenstein.1@nd.edu (Charles R. Hohenstein) writes:
>Sorry if I sound a little exuberant, but I am really quite happy about
>this.

...and well you should be. I have never regretted getting my ham ticket...not
even in the middle of being flamed as a dirty capitalist closed-repeater
pig-dog. :-) I hope you get as much out of ham radio as I have.

--

Jay Maynard, EMT-P, K5ZC, PP-ASEL | Never ascribe to malice that which can
jmaynard@oac.hsc.uth.tmc.edu | adequately be explained by stupidity.
You won't see this on TV: (video of Mount Carmel compound)
"This is David Koresh, of Waco, Texas. He cannot be seen."

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 05:30:31 MST
From: destroyer!cs.ubc.ca!unixg.ubc.ca!kakwa.ucs.ualberta.ca!alberta!adec23!
ve6mgs!usenet@uunet.uu.net
Subject: OPDX Bulletin #103 - March 15, 1993
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

DX Bulletin No. 103

March 15, 1993

Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW

Provided by BARF-80 BBS Cleveland, Ohio

Online at 216-237-8208 14400/9600/2400/1200/300 8/N/1

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, ARRL DX Bulletin, DXAC, AD1C, K1ER, KA1NCN, NA2M, WA3CGE, K4CEF & Southeastern Cluster Group, WS7I, W8GIO, KF8VW and HB9BCK for the following DX information.

THIS WEEK'S HOT RUMOR! It was reported on a DX net that Romeo (3W3RR) will be active in the near future from 5A (Libya) and 3V (Tunisia).

1S, SPRATLY ISLAND. The latest word we have on Spratly is that the trip is definitely still on, but it has now been delayed until April. A few reasons were mentioned, one was so not to conflict with any other DXpeditions (presumably the KH5K and KH5 operation). The second reason that was mentioned for the delay was the landing paperwork was not totally in order and Martti (OH2BH) had requested everyone to plan on delaying the trip for this reason. Stay tuned for more details as we hear it.

5R, MADAGASCAR. Frank (DL7FT) is currently active as 5R8DJ until March 28. He was quite active on 28490 kHz around 1430z this past weekend. Look for him on these other frequencies: 28005, 24940, 24898, 21005, 18145, 18080, 14005 and 10101 kHz. There were no low band operation mentioned. QSL vi DL7FT.

5X, UGANDA. A station signing 5X1A showed up March 9th on 21232 kHz and was active for a few hours. The operator stated his name was Bruno and to QSL via DL0MAR. It was also reported that Mario (5X5MB) was present in the room.

BY, CHINA. It has been reported that BY1QH is now active on 12 and 17 meters. This should be the first WARC activity from China. There have been no signs of CW activity as of yet, but supposedly BY1QH is using a GP vertical and a TS-440s on these bands.

C9, MOZAMBIQUE. The Mozambique government has restructured their call signs and has issued new call signs for their 6 providences. The new prefixes are C91 thru C96 with the other remaining prefixes used for special events and VHF only. The following operators and club call have been changed: C9RJJ is now C91J, C9RDM is now C91S and club station C9TDM is now C91TDM. W8GIO continues to serve as QSL Manager for C91J and C91S ONLY. Cards for C9TDM go to: POB 25, Maputo, Mozambique.

HB0, LIECHTENSTEIN. Albert (HB9BCK) will be active from April 11-17 as HB0/HB9BCK/P. He plans to be active on CW/SSB and RTTY/AMTOR/PACTOR using

80/40/30/20/15/10 meters. He also plans to be show up on the Family Hour DX net at 1800z. QSL via HB9BCK, Albert Zaehner, Scherzinerstr. 23, CH-8595 Altnau TG, Switzerland or QSL via the HB9 bureau.

HC8, GALAPAGOS ISLANDS. Jay (WS7I) reported to OPDX that Betsy (WV7Y) and himself will be traveling to join HC8A. They will be very active on RTTY and probably 6 meters. Their callsign will be HC8J and they plan to operate March 20-21 in the BARTG (British Amateur Radio Teletype Group) RTTY Contest. QSL via WV7Y with a SASE (NO bureau cards). They plan to be there until the 27th of March. Jay mentioned HC8A will be active in the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest with Rich (N6KT), also QSL via WV7Y.

S2, BANGLADESH. Three new stations have been active all week. Look for S21ZK, S21ZL and S21ZM. The ops have been reported as UB5 operators. The stations ZK and ZL seem to be active mainly on 18 and 24 MHz, while ZM is active on 7, 14 and 21 MHz. The length of their stay is unknown. QSL all three to SP5IUL.

MORE ON FIELD CHECKING. Bill (NA2M) informed OPDX that there are a few changes and errors in the latest Field Checking List and DXCC List.

A6, U.A.E. - Now has a black dot next to it, which means it can be field checkable. The September issue did not have it.

HI, Dominican Rep. - Has no black dot, meaning no more field checks, however, this is an error. It is still field checkable.

4N4, Bosnia-Herzegovina - This is also field checkable and is listed as 4U4, change to 4N4 in the listing.

Added note: The former "U" prefixes for Lativa (YL) and Lithuania are still okay for field checking.

CHANGE IN DXCC COUNTRIES LIST. The ARRL DX Bulletin this week announced that on March 10 the ARRL Awards Committee voted unanimously to accept the DXAC recommendation to delete Abu Ail Islands from the DXCC Countries List, effective March 31, 1991. The reason for the deletion: "When the Red Sea Lights Company relinquished control of the islands on that date, they became unadministered. Because of this change of status, the area now falls under Point 4 of the Countries List Criteria."

DXAC HAPPENINGS. The petition for the deletion of Mount Athos has been removed from the DXAC agenda as requested by the petitioner. DXAC member Bob Parlin, W0SFU, has been replaced by Vern Veenhuis, KU0S, representing the Dakota division.

A SPECIAL OPDX BULLETIN: The results of the OPDX/NODXA 1992 DX Survey, that was taken December of 1992 thru February 1993, will be released sometime this week.

FAX YOUR DX INFORMATION NOW! Faxing is available Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 0430 to 2330z only. The number is 216-237-8208 and operates only

Class 2 Fax. Use only the dates and times specified. The FAX card is sharing the same phone line as BARF-80 BBS using a data/fax/phone switch.

Excerpts and distribution of The OPDX Bulletin are granted as long as OPDX/BARF80 receive credit. To contribute DX info, call BARF-80 BBS online at 216-237-8208 14400/9600/2400/1200/300 and leave a message with the Sysop or send InterNet Mail to: aq474@cleveland.freenet.edu or send BitNet Mail to: aq474@cleveland.freenet@cunyvms or send PRODIGY Mail to: DFJH48A or send a message via packet to KB8NW @ WA8BXN.OH.USA.NA (pm)

--

Jim Reisert	Internet: reisert@mast.enet.dec.com
Digital Equipment Corp.	UUCP: ...decwrl:mast.enet.dec.com!reisert
146 Main Street - ML03-6/C9	Voice: 508-493-5747
Maynard, MA 01754	FAX: 508-493-0395

Date: 15 Mar 93 18:33:52 EST
From: titan.ksc.nasa.gov!k4dii.ksc.nasa.gov!user@ames.arpa
Subject: TS-50 Impressions
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I just purchased my TS-50 last Friday, and am still getting to know it. The more I learn, the more impressed I am with the technology involved.

First, I would not recommend it for the person who has room for a larger radio. It probably has nearly identical features to the Kenwood TS-450, for the most part, and the TS-690 has an even wider frequency coverage. It uses some of the controls for extra functions, rather than cluttering the front panel with additional knobs. I'm not sure if I'll ever be able to remember enough to operate it without the owner's manual at hand!

It seems that you hold the "f-lock" button for 2 seconds to get to the set-up menus. There are "A" and "B" menus, selected with the "A/B" VFO button. I forget how many parameters can be changed in the menus. It might be around 80 or so! Even the functions assigned to the 4 buttons on the face of the microphone, can be changed to whatever you might prefer.

One function I added to one of the microphone buttons, was the ability to read the 10 KHz and 1 KHz digits. Normally, you can only read frequency to the nearest 100 KHz on the main dial, compared to 10 KHz on the (modified) TS-430/440/450/et cetera. The fact that the radio uses 5 KHz steps is of little value, if you don't have the high accuracy (TCXO) option. Once I figured out how to set the frequency to exactly 20.000.000 MHz, I found the error with WWV to be less than a 5 Hz step, with the high accuracy option installed.

One area that may concern the SWL, is the low frequency limit of 500 kHz, compared to about 150 kHz of the TS-450/690. If you're interested in low frequency stuff, it isn't the radio for you. However, it seems to have slightly better broadcast band sensitivity than my TS-690.

I noticed that nearby stations above about 30 dB over S-9, sound distorted, even with the "AIP" feature turned on. (I also noticed that on my TS-690.)

I've never noticed such overload on my older TS-120 or TS-430, so it appears to be a step backwards. However, it may be an unfair comparison if the newer radios are much more sensitive. If so, their true dynamic range may be the same, just shifted downward.

As of last Friday, the AT-50 automatic tuners had been shipped but not received, by any of the dealers who were at the Orlando Hamfest. I purchased my TS-50 from Amateur Electronic Supply in Orlando. I got the CW filter and high-accuracy options. However, none of the other options unique to the TS-50, were available yet. As of this weekend, spec sheets and price lists are available.

73, Fred, K4DII

fred-mckenzie@ksc.nasa.gov

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 03:52:21 GMT
From: portal!quadsys!roland@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Weather Satellite Digital Formats
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I am building a decoder for analog transmissions from weather satellites. The literature I have read also refers to the satellites transmitting higher-resolution images in digital format.

Does anyone know where I can find out more about the digital format and frequencies used?

Thanx

--

Roland Besserer QUAD Systems, Santa Cruz roland@quadsys.com

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 03:49:09 GMT
From: portal!quadsys!roland@uunet.uu.net

Subject: Weather Satellite Transmission Recording
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I'm in the process of building a weather satellite decoder and would like to test my design. I haven't gotten the receiver up yet (and still need to build the antenna), so I wondered if someone out there would be willing to send me a cassette tape recoding of a Meteor, COSMOS and WEFAX signal recording?

I would, of course, cover any expenses. A standard cassette or, better, microcassette would be great.

Thanx

--

Roland Besserer QUAD Systems, Santa Cruz roland@quadsys.com

Date: 15 Mar 1993 19:47:33 GMT
From: news.larc.nasa.gov!grissom.larc.nasa.gov!kludge@uunet.uu.net
Subject: What about those FAQing number stations anyway?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Mar15.142552.26594@bmr.ca> mwandel@bmr.ca (Markus Wandel) writes:
>My turn to ask the eternal question: What is it with these number
>stations anyway? The one I heard recently was at about 5.165MHz

Dunno, but one of the military bases on the current shutdown list is Vint Hill Farms here in Virginia, which a lot of the numbers transmissions have been DFed to. If you notice that the beam they are coming in from changes radically in the next year, you'll know why.
--scott

Date: 15 Mar 93 15:53:45 CST
From: timbuk.cray.com!hemlock.cray.com!cherry10!dadams@uunet.uu.net
Subject: What is RST?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I notice most of the QSO's used in supermorse have a line like:

Your RST is 345 345.

Usually RST is followed by a three digit number repeated twice.

What does it mean?

--David C. Adams Statistician Cray Research Inc. dadams@cray.com

Old Sourdoughs never die. They just ferment away.

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 93 22:43:04 GMT

From: data.nas.nasa.gov!sun444.nas.nasa.gov!harding@ames.arpa

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1m7bck\$fpn@uxa.ecn.bgu.edu>, <103360159@hpfco.FC.HP.COM>,
<1993Mar13.191255.8724@n8emr.cmhnet.org>

Subject : Re: DESPERATE...NEED TO KNOW FACTS CONCERNING LEGALITY

In article <1993Mar13.191255.8724@n8emr.cmhnet.org> gws@n8emr.cmhnet.org (Gary Sanders) writes:

>In article <103360159@hpfco.FC.HP.COM> perry@hpfco.FC.HP.COM (Perry Scott) writes:

]...[

>>It is legal for a ham to _own_ an out-of-band radio because we do
>>experimentation.

>

>This is silly..... what experimentation can you do out of band. Its
>illegal to transmit out of band period. (ok except in an emergency).

>The TX out of band is just an effect of RX out of band.

>Even if he can modify for out of band TX he can not legally transmit

>out of band even if he has a license for that band.

Well...how about MARS activity?

steve

--

work:harding@nas.nasa.gov play:steveh@grafex.Cupertino.CA.US (408.252.0578)

A prince trapped in the body of a dirty old man.

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 22:11:42 GMT

From: netcomsv!netcom.com!jfh@decwrl.dec.com

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <930311.194505.5p8.rusnews.w165w@garlic.sbs.com>,
<1993Mar12.160813.24809@mixcom.com>,
<930314.231433.6o1.rusnews.w165w@garlic.sbs.com>

Subject : Re: Kenwood TH78A vs. Alinco DJ580

system@garlic.sbs.com (Anthony S. Pelliccio) wrote:

>A 580T would crack like an egg if you put 100 lbs on it, let alone a
>car.

I'm not sure that the unit would have 100 lbs on it in the ad. There's
still some tire touching the ground in the picture in the ad. Perhaps the
tire takes most of the weight.

--

Jack Hamilton jfh@netcom.com P. O. Box 281107 SF, CA 94128-1107

Date: Mon, 15 Mar 1993 22:34:43 GMT

From: mentor.cc.purdue.edu!noose.ecn.purdue.edu!dynamo.ecn.purdue.edu!
wb9omc@purdue.edu

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1nr1fo\$652@bigboote.WPI.EDU>, <C3xz1A.D8D@news.rich.bnr.ca>,
<1993Mar15.192928.3782@rsg1.er.usgs.gov>.p

Subject : Re: CTIA REPLY COMMENTS TO FCC DOCKET 93-01 (scanner ban)

tbodoh@resdgs1.er.usgs.gov (Tom Bodoh) writes:

>--

>Unfortunately, this is more than a proposal. Congress has passed the law and
>now the FCC is obliged to refine it and then enforce it. Complaining to the
>FCC is most likely a moot point since they must follow the law and also I
>suspect that complaining to them would be preaching to the choir - they
>probably "unofficially" think that it sucks too.

>The only way to oppose this is to somehow get congress to repeal the law
>which is forcing the FCC to act. One method would be for many people to
>contact their congresspersons. Another method would be to publicise the
>stupidity of the law and perhaps reveal which congresspersons received
>money from the Cellular lobby compared to which of them voted or lobbied
>or sponsored the bill. Enquiring minds want to know.

Start with your own congresscritters - and let them know,
CLEARLY, that you want it repealed.

Duane

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #322
